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PARIS PASS USRO, THURSTON & WEST.

Reference Embassy's G-410.

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French have now given us their views on possibility of using Allied Military Liaison Missions at Potsdam as channel for communication with Soviets on matters affecting Berlin if Soviets transfer authority to ODR and Soviet Embassy East Berlin denies its competence and refuses discuss such matters.

French say they would have no objection to using Military Missions on "strictly military" matters, e.g., if soldier was arrested or detained in East Berlin or Soviet Zone, but that on matters having political significance, such as Berlin access, they consider it undesirable use Missions. They base objection on same grounds as British and because they fear using Missions for such purposes might prejudice their other activities. They believe that approach should be made at Moscow if channel of Soviet Embassy East Berlin unavailing.

BRUCE

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